AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A biologically pure microorganism of *Streptococcus sp.* KL0188 (KCTC), which is a hyaluronic acid producing microorganism strain that does not express hyaluronidase and that shows a non-hemolytic property.

2. (Withdrawn) A method for purifying hyaluronic acid, comprising the steps of treating a culture solution of the Streptococcus sp. KL0188 (KCTC10248BP) of claim 1 with an aromatic adsorption resin, treating it with an active carbon, and precipitating it with an organic solvent to purify hyaluronic acid and a salt thereof.

3. (Withdrawn) The method for purifying hyaluronic acid according to claim 2, wherein the aromatic adsorption resin is selected from the group consisting of HP10, HP20, HP21, HP30, SP800, SP825, SP850, SP875, SP205, SP206, and SP207.

4. (Withdrawn) The method for purifying hyaluronic acid according to claim 2, wherein the method comprises the steps of: (a) preparing a culture filtrate from the culture solution of the hyaluronic acid producing microorganism strain; (b) adding an aromatic adsorption resin to the culture filtrate, agitating it, and conducting ultrafiltration to prepare a hyaluronic acid aqueous solution from which exothermic material is removed; and (c) adding an organic solvent to the hyaluronic acid aqueous solution to precipitate hyaluronic acid and a salt thereof, and drying it, wherein the method further comprises the step of adding an active carbon to the culture filtrate or to the hyaluronic acid aqueous solution and removing the active carbon, after the step of (a) or (c).

5. (Withdrawn) A hyaluronic acid and a salt thereof purified by the method of claim 4.

6. (Withdrawn) A method for purifying hyaluronic acid comprising the step of treating a culture solution of hyaluronic acid producing strain with an aromatic adsorption resin, treating it with an active carbon and precipitating it with an organic solvent to purify hyaluronic acid and a salt thereof.

7. (Withdrawn) The method for purifying hyaluronic acid and a salt thereof according to claim 6, wherein the aromatic adsorption resin is a copolymer of styrene and divinylbenzene, or brominated polystyrene.

8. (Withdrawn) The method for purifying hyaluronic acid and a salt thereof according to claim 6, wherein the aromatic adsorption resin is selected from the group consisting of HP10, HL20, HP21, HP30, SP800, SP850, SP875, SP205, SP206, and SP207.

9. (Withdrawn) The method for purifying hyaluronic acid and a salt thereof according to claim 6, wherein the method comprises the steps of: (a) preparing a culture filtrate from the culture solution of hyaluronic acid producing microorganism strain; (b) adding an aromatic adsorption resin to the culture filtrate, agitating it, and conducting ultrafiltration to prepare a hyaluronic acid aqueous solution from which exothermic material is removed; and (c) adding an organic solvent to the hyaluronic acid aqueous solution to precipitate hyaluronic acid and a salt thereof, and drying it, wherein the method further comprises the step of adding an active carbon to the culture filtrate or to the hyaluronic acid aqueous solution and removing the active carbon, after the step of (a) or (c).

10. (Withdrawn) The method for purifying hyaluronic acid and a salt thereof according to claim 6, wherein the hyaluronic acid producing microorganism strain is a Streptococcus sp. strain.

11. (New) The biologically pure microorganisms of *Streptococcus sp.* KL0188 (KCTC) according to claim 1, wherein the *Streptococcus sp.* KL0188 (KCTC) has an Accession No. KCTC 10248BP.